



CALPEEK

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S.F. MAYOR'S RACE: AGNOS STILL UNDER 30%.
With the election for mayor of Calif.'s 4th largest city about 5 months away, San Francisco Mayor Art Agnos is STILL stuck under 30% in the most recent poll matching him against three solid rivals. The latest poll by the S.F. Examiner (released 6/25) shows Agnos with 27% among registered voters, while former S.F. Police Chief Frank Jordan is at 22.9%, followed by S.F. County Assessor Richard Hongisto at 13.7%. Next is S.F. Co. Sup. Tom Hsieh with 10.8% and others at 6.3%. Undecided accounts for 19.3%...

...This is the THIRD poll showing Agnos below 30% and many CALPEEK sources in S.F. believe Agnos will have a very tough reelection. A private poll conducted for PG&E and leaked around the first part of April showed Agnos with 29%, Jordan at 19%, Hongisto with 8%, Hsieh with 4% and a huge 40% undecided. And then about 10 days ago, the results of a poll taken by Alex Evans for Hsieh were made public. Again, Agnos showed up at 29%, with Jordan at 20%, Hongisto at 14%, with Hsieh at 10% and 27% undecided. The Hsieh poll was taken between April 11-17, with a 600 sample size...

...As for that stuff that these early polls don't mean a thing — that's a spin that doesn't hold water in this case. Agnos is in political trouble. Evans told CALPEEK that Agnos is the "weakest incumbent" he has ever seen...

...Despite the poor showing in these polls, Agnos is still regarded as a formidable candidate, with an ability to raise a huge war-chest. The campaign contribution period ends June 30th and when all is said and done, some think Agnos will report upwards of \$800,000 for the period...

...FYI: Agnos has produced an impressive

full-color brochure highlighting his accomplishments in office. However, some of Agnos's critics say this brochure trumpets those projects and developments which upset the very people who helped elect Art Agnos four years ago. Stay tuned...

A LITTLE SUMMER VACATION FOR CALPEEK - No newsletter for July 8th. We're taking off the week of July 1-5 (and so is our printer). Next issue of CALPEEK will be dated July 15...

THE HEAT GETS TURNED UP, BUT INSIDERS FEEL ABORTION IS STILL ON POLITICAL BACK BURNER.
Editor's note: ABORTION as a hot political issue seems to be on a roller coaster ride, with interest in the subject getting hot ONLY when current events put the subject on the front page or on the TV network news. Here is a brief CALPEEK update...

...Two recent events have turned up the heat in the debate over ABORTION: the U.S. Supreme Court's GAG ORDER on abortion counseling at taxpayer-funded family planning clinics; and a tough new anti-abortion law by the Louisiana State Legislature...

...While both are important, the new law in Louisiana may have the most national impact because it could trigger a reversal of Roe vs. Wade by the U.S. Supreme Court. And just the threat of this happening may be the catalyst which moves abortion to the front burner on high - in time for the 1992 Presidential election...

...But of a more immediate concern is the

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U.S. Supreme Court's new abortion gag order for family planning clinics. The decision isn't sitting well with Calif. voters. A June 20 Calif. Poll shows 70% of those questioned DISAGREE with the high court's ruling. And a majority, 52%, want the State to replace any federal funds that may be lost by Calif. family planning clinics. Gov. Pete Wilson(R) has already pledged to do this. In a late breaking development, the U.S. House of Representatives voted 352 to 74 for H.R. 2707. An amendment to this appropriations bill prohibits the use of funds to enforce the gag order. Another bill, H.R. 392, would actually overturn the court's gag ruling...

...DESPITE the increased attention on abortion, there is NO evidence as yet that abortion as a political issue is surfacing in 2 State Assembly SPECIAL ELECTIONS now underway in Sacto and Orange Counties. The GOP is the heavy favorite to win both the 5th A.D. and 67th A.D. races. In both cases, there are GOP candidates on both sides of the abortion question...

...FYI: AB 2005 by Jackie Speier(D-South S.F.) got caught in the abortion controversy. Her bill relating to health research mentions testing of RU-486 (the new drug which can cause an abortion). However, this product also has other medical uses. Despite some protests by a few Pro-LIFE lawmakers who saw Speier's bill as a backdoor approach to introducing RU-486 here in Calif., AB 2005 passed on a 45-12 vote. Stay tuned...

TO CALPEEK SUBSCRIBERS: CHANGE OF ADDRESS. If you're planning to move or have already done so, please send CALPEEK a change of address notice, WITH your current CALPEEK mailing label. The label contains a code which enables CALPEEK to quickly process your change of address...

INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CALPEEK. Here is some helpful information about CALPEEK that you may need to know. DEADLINES for editorial and Marketplace Network are 12 noon each Wednesday. CALPEEK is printed and mailed each Thursday. Need to reach CALPEEK by FAX? Our FAX phone is (213)657-4340. CALPEEK does not make refunds on cancellations...

TRUCK WARS: KATZ vs. CALIF. TRUCKING ASSN. CALPEEK sources believe that Assemblyman Richard Katz(D-L.A.), chair of the Assembly Transportation Committee, may be headed for a major ballot measure fight with Calif.'s trucking industry over the use of TRIPLE-TRAILERS on State highways. Katz wants to ban big rigs in Calif...

...Sources say if it comes to an initiative war, Katz would likely shoot for a November 1992 spot on the general election ballot. Does the assemblyman have the resources to wage such a war? Ask yourself this question: who gets hurt the most (in the pocketbook) if big rigs hit the Calif. highways and freeways? If you said the RAILROAD industry — you win a prize...

...However, it might NOT come to a ballot measure war at all. U.S. Senators Frank Lautenberg(D-NJ) and John Chafee(R-RI) recently won passage of an amendment to the 1991 Surface Transportation Act to stop the introduction of big rigs (triple trailers) in States which don't have them now. CA is one of them. The Senate's version of the Surface Trasnsp. Act now goes to the U.S. House for action, hopefully before September...

...And just so you know this thing could get expensive, if it does go to a ballot war, the CA Trucking Assn. has two strong allies in UPS and ARCO. In fact, ARCO has been pushing a bill in Sacto for a \$150,000 feasibility study on the impact of big rigs in Calif.(AB 1223 by Jim Costa of Fresno). Stay tuned...

CA BALLOT MEASURE UPDATE: ACR 13 APPROVED. Editor's note: Here is an update on some important activity relating to initiatives in Calif...

- The CA Assembly has approved ACR 13 by Jim Costa(D-Fresno) which would set up a citizens' commission to study and then recommend whether or not Calif.'s current INITIATIVE procedure should be changed or left alone. The vote was 44-21. The 15 member commission would consist of 12 appointed members, plus the AG, Secretary of State and the head of the County Clerks Assn. Written recommendations would have to be submitted to the legislature by Mar. 1, 1992 and lawmakers could then change the

law by either statute or a constitutional amendment. A competing measure by Assemblyman Stan Statham(R-Redding) was defeated. Statham's AB 262 would have established the commission under LAW - thus giving it more clout. AB 262 had an urgency clause requiring 54 votes, but only got 45...

- Californians for New Forestry, which is the timber INDUSTRY group, has hired Sacto-based campaign consultant Cavalier & Associates as a defensive move just in case there is another timber initiative placed on the 1992 ballot by backers of Prop. 130, which was defeated last year. CALPEEK sources have heard rumors that Prop. 130 backer Hal Arbit may be planning a second ballot measure. Both sides are trying to work out a legislative solution...

- A coalition of restaurants, hotels, grocers and other business interests have formed Health Coalition '92, a broad-based group which is preparing to fight mandated health care initiatives that may be headed for the 1992 ballot. The CA Medical Assn. is threatening to place such a measure on the ballot which will require businesses to provide minimum health care coverage to all employees. According to Jo Linda Thompson of the CA Restaurant Assn., this could cost CA businesses as much as \$4,800 per worker. If it does come to a ballot measure fight, the campaign team will be led by The PBN Company, with consultant Ken Khachigian and pollster Jan van Lohuizen also aboard...

5th A.D. UPDATE: COLLINS STILL ON BALLOT.

Editor's note: On Friday, June 21, after CALPEEK had already mailed last week's issue of the newsletter, a group called the No. Calif. Taxpayers' Committee went into Sacto Co. Superior Court to see if they could convince Judge James T. Ford to reverse his previous ruling allowing GOP 5th A.D. candidate B.T. Collins to be on the July 23rd special election ballot to replace Tim Leslie(R). Here is CALPEEK's brief report...

...No change. Judge Ford would NOT reverse himself. The challenge was based on the number of valid signatures turned in by the Collins campaign. Originally, the Sacto Co. Registrar threw Collins off the ballot because he was 2 valid signatures SHORT of the 40 required. But Judge Ford ruled on

June 10 that Collins could stay on the ballot because there was "substantial compliance."...

...So why was there another attempt to throw B.T. off the ballot? B.T.'s two main opponents, Mark Baughman and Barbara Alby, wanted the court to look at some questionable signatures. One was an out-and-out forgery (a wife signed her husband's name); while a second signature was by a voter from Placer Co., who mistakenly signed the circulation petition for Sacto Co. voters; a third signature was from a woman who failed to register at her new home. So there were some legit problems. The legal bantering was terrific, with what one CALPEEK source said was "half the Nielsen, Merksamer law firm in the courtroom defending Collins' campaign." However, as Baughman campaign consultant Wayne Johnson said, "This judge was going to find 40 signatures if he had to go through the Roseville telephone book." CALPEEK sources say the taxpayer committee may appeal Judge Ford's ruling. Stay tuned...

U.S. SENATORS WHOSE TERMS EXPIRE IN 1992.

Editor's note: In addition to the two CA U.S. Senate seats, there are 32 other U.S. Senate seats up for grabs next year. Here is a list...

...DEMOCRATS include Brook Adams(WA), John Breaux(LA), Dale Bumpers(AR), Kent Conrad(ND), Tom Daschle(SD), Alan Dixon(IL), Chris Dodd(CT), Wendell Ford(KY), Wyche Fowler(GA), John Glenn(OH), Bob Graham(FL), Fritz Hollings(SC), Dan Inouye(HI), Patrick Leahy(VT), Barbara Mikulski(MD), Harry Reid(NV), Terry Sanford(NC), Richard Shelby(AL) and Tim Wirth(CO)...

...GOPers include Kit Bond(MO), Dan Coats(IN), Al D'Amato(NY), Bob Dole(KS), Jake Garn(UT), Charles Grassley(IA), Bob Kasten(WI), John McCain(AZ), Frank Murkowski(AK), Don Nickles(OK), Bob Packwood(OR), Warren Rudman(NH), Alan Specter(PA) and Steven Symms(ID). In all there are 20 Demos and 14 Republicans up in 1992, with CA's Alan Cranston and Garn already announcing that they will NOT seek reelection...

GAY PARADE "OUTS" L.A. CO. ASSESSOR HAHN.

Although L.A. Co. Assessor Kenneth Hahn (no relation to the better known county supervisor) says he's never denied his sexual preference (he's a homosexual), at the same time it's not a subject that he discussed or even surfaced when he ran for the assessor's job last November against incumbent John Lynch. So most voters (and lots of reporters) didn't know that Hahn was gay. Well, it's now out in the open thanks to West Hollywood's Gay & Lesbian Pride Parade. As one of the many politicians who participated in the June 23 event, Hahn was introduced as "the senior-most elected openly gay official in L.A. Co." Hahn had no idea that he would be IDed in this manner. The L.A. Times used the word "flabbergasted" in its headline...

FINAL ASSEMBLY VOTE DUE ON GAY RIGHTS BILL.

Editor's note: By the time this July 1st issue of CALPEEK hits the street, the CA Assembly may have taken a vote on AB 101, the so-called Gay Bill of Rights which bans discrimination in housing and employment based on sexual orientation. Here is a brief CALPEEK update...

...On June 25, the Assembly Ways & Means Committee voted 12-9 to approve AB 101 by Terry Friedman(D-L.A.). Eleven Demos and 1 GOP lawmaker (Bill Filante, who also voted for AB 1 in 1984) voted YES. Three Demos, Bob Eppe, Steve Clute and Jerry Eaves, joined most of the Republicans on the W&M Committee in casting NO votes. As CALPEEK was preparing this issue, the bill got a second reading on the Assembly Floor and was tentatively set for a third reading and perhaps a vote on or about June 28. The vote itself could be very close, with AB 101 supporters predicting they'll have 41 or 42 votes - all Demos, plus Filante and perhaps one other Republican...

...About 28 GOP Assembly Caucus member have written a letter to Gov. Pete Wilson(R) urging him to veto AB 101 should it reach his desk. Wilson hasn't committed himself, but several CALPEEK sources think he will sign AB 101 despite the political fallout it might cause -- especially to U.S. Sen. John Seymour(R), who faces an increasingly bitter primary battle from U.S. Rep. Bill Dannemeyer(R). Dannemeyer has accused Seymour of being PRO-homosexual...

...The governor is under tremendous cross-pressure on this issue. Some within his administration want Wilson to veto AB 101 to preserve what little is left of party harmony with conservatives. But Sacramento is rife with rumors that if Wilson should veto the bill, radical GAYS might resort to exposing (the term is called "outing") legislators and administration officials as homosexuals. While there are no OPENLY gay legislators, most CALPEEK readers have heard some pretty substantial stories about this subject -- and who is and who isn't. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK'S POLITICAL COOKBOOK MOVING ALONG.

We're now up to 54 recipes, but would still like more. The latest recipes include Summer Vegetable Pizza from Debbie Welp in State Sen. Frank Hill's Sacto office and The Even Pres. Bush Would Eat This Broccoli Casserole from Danielle Sanford of Cerrell Associates in L.A. So quit putting it off and send in those recipes. Thanks...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

- Fred Hummel promoted to Exec. VP at Candidates Outdoor Graphic Services(COGS) in Belmont, CA. Brother Greg is a COGS VP at the firm's El Monte office...

- Another change for pollster Gene Ulm, who has jumped ship at The Wirthlin Group in Orange Co. and beginning Aug. 1 reports for work in Alexandria, VA at Public Opinion Strategies...

- Sacto-based campaign consultant Wayne Johnson is named nat'l winner in the annual Silver Microphone Awards for a radio spot he produced last year for U.S. Rep. John Doolittle. Johnson's firm also named nat'l finalists for two other political spots -- YES on Prop. 140 and an ad for Assemblyman David Knowles...

- Sacto-based Cavalier & Associates has been hired by the Assn. of CA Hospital Districts to help promote the association's new Blue Indigo of CA health care delivery system...